

New Jersey
Department
of
Education



GED New Jersey

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Multiple & Diverse Pathways

Now more than ever in our increasingly busy lives people appreciate having choices. Having a choice of which path you take to get to your destination always makes life a little easier. But not every path is right for every individual. That's where Multiple & Diverse Pathways comes in- three very different routes to the ultimate goal of a high school diploma. Consider the following three scenarios;

Joe is 47 years old and the head of a family of four. He's been out of school for over 30 years ever since he dropped out of high school at the age of 16. Many times over the years, Joe has been passed over for promotions due to his lack of a high school diploma. He works during the day and can't devote full time to his studies. He's also concerned that because he's been out of school for so long he's overwhelmed by where to start. So what's the right path for Joe? It's an **Adult High School** where he can learn in a structured environment with the help of caring professionals.

Now consider the plight of Rosa. Rosa was

going to high school in one of the more troubled school districts in the state. Violence was a common occurrence in her school, and on most days, classes became so disruptive she felt she wasn't learning anything. Her parents made the decision to allow her to drop out of school when they felt her physical well-being was at stake. It was a shame, because Rosa was a bright girl who was just finishing the 11th grade. What would be a good path for Rosa? **Self study for the GED.** Much of the information she studied in school is fresh in her mind. She can devote a majority of her time to preparation for the test, and from the comfort and safety of her home, she can brush up on her studies by watching GED educational programs scheduled regularly on PBS stations. For an additional

preparation, she can download sample tests from the Internet.

Finally, consider Jackson. Jackson dropped out of high school between the 11th & 12th grades and went directly into the workforce to provide for his girlfriend and new baby. He's been attending the local community college as part of a workforce training program sponsored by his current employer. Over time he has accumulated college credits covering a variety of subjects. For Jackson, the **30 College Credits Route** is the way to go. He'll have to provide some documentation such as his Statewide Assessment Test, taken while he was still in high school, and an official transcript including at least 30 college credits and satisfy several other requirements. However this is clearly the best path for him.



Each Path Can Lead to a
High School Diploma!

New GED Test Scores for Passing

A new set of requirements was adopted by the New Jersey State Board of Education effective April 1, 2005 in order to align New Jersey's requirements with national standards.

Prior to April 1, 2005, the scores were based on those adopted January 1, 2002.

GED Tests Scores Effective April 1, 2005:

	<u>Minimum Score</u>
1. Language Arts/Writing	410
2. Social studies	410
3. Science	410
4. Language Arts/Reading	410
5. Mathematics	410

Plus a total score of 2250.

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Letter from the GED Administrator



It is often said that this is the "Age of Information" and that fact is evidenced constantly as we move through our daily routines. The basic concept of this publication surrounds information and the need that exists to gather and exchange information pertaining to adult literacy and GED programs. Informational sharing is the cornerstone of this publica-

tion, and it is with this goal in mind we will make every effort to address issues of current importance to the adult literacy/GED community.

In the months to come, we will endeavor to provide useful information affecting the adult education/GED community in a manner that will inform, enlighten, educate and, in some cases, even entertain our readers. The scope of this publication is limited only by imagination, and to this end, I invite you to join us by contributing your ideas, experiences and concerns so that we may share them with others actively involved in adult

education. E-mail correspondence may be submitted to: GED_INFO@doe.state.nj.us

In addition to providing information on adult literacy/GED, this publication will also spotlight the accomplishments and successes of GED graduates as they move along their academic pathways. Graduation celebrations from around the state will be showcased in pictures as captured by staff in attendance. Personal triumphs of GED graduates will be related through in-depth interviews and personal reflections. The accomplishments of the adult learner serve as a testament to individual commitment and as a beacon to future challenges.

With your contributions and feedback, I am confident this newsletter will provide the adult educational community a valuable and useful forum for sharing experiences, successes and concerns. I look forward with anticipation to the publication of subsequent editions of the GED New Jersey Newsletter.

Bob Berezny
GED Administrator

Academic Achievement Ceremony



Recently the Mercer County Community College held an academic achievement ceremony for graduates of their James Kerney Campus. These were just a few of the over-50 GED graduates who attended.

Precious Partners

The New Jersey Association for Lifelong Learning (NJALL) is a professional association that encourages the growth and development of lifelong learning and lifelong learners. Their three-pronged mission statement is as follows:

Advocacy: Through communication and education, NJALL works with policy makers and legislators to support adult education, to increase funding and to enhance the quality of service.

Professional Development: Through an

annual conference, seminars, workshops and other activities, NJALL keeps members informed about the latest issues and advances in the field. **Community:** NJALL provides a framework for sharing policy issues and best practices.



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Spotlight on GED Graduates

Do you have a great story to tell? We, at the Bureau of Adult Education and Family Literacy/GED are always looking for that special story of inspiration to pass along. We all hear from time to time those wonderful tales of the 62-year-old grandmother of six who just received her GED. Or perhaps the 21-year-old mother who, saddled with teenage pregnancy, overcame her obstacles and successfully passed the GED with the help of adult education programs. If you know of someone with an encouraging tale to tell, please let us know so that we can help spread the word and persuade others to start on their own path to a GED.

Please contact Kurt Neinstedt, consultant, with suggestions and submissions.

E-mail Kneinste@doe.state.nj.us

Phone 609-943-5923



GED Graduates Earl Brancolino, left and John Farina, second from right with family members Susan Kiss and Judy Farina at a recent Academic Achievement Award Ceremony, Mercer County Community College, James Kerney Campus, Trenton.

Grants & Funding

The following is a list of Internet sites that may be of interest to those of you in search of funding. Each issue we will apprise you of sites that list education as an area of interest in their grant programs. Happy hunting!

Citigroup Foundation

Working with a global network of colleagues and partners, the foundation gives grants focused in three main areas:

- [Financial Education](#)
- [Educating the Next Generation](#)
- [Building Communities and Entrepreneurs](#)

The Web site is located at the following address:

www.citigroup.com/citigroup/corporate/foundation/index.htm

Corning Foundation

The Corning Incorporated Foundation, established in 1952, develops and administers projects in support of educational, cultural, community and selected national organizations. The Web site is located at the following address: www.corning.com/inside_corning/foundation.asp

IBM

To make the most effective use of IBM resources and expertise, IBM has selected priority issues and key initiatives for investment. Our main focus is education. The Web site is located at the following address: www.ibm.com/ibm/ibmgives/grant/

Fast Facts

In 2000, median earnings of workers age 25 and over with a:

- Master's degree were \$55,300;
- Bachelor's degree were \$46,300;
- Associate's degree were \$35,400;
- some college, no degree were \$32,400;
- high school diploma were \$28,800; and
- some high school, but no diploma were \$21,400.

(U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2001, p1)





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NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Multiple & Diverse Pathways

We're on the web at
www.nj.gov/njded/adulted/

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Current GED Test Center Locations in N.J.

1 Atlantic County

Pleasantville

2 Bergen County

Hackensack & Paramus

3 Burlington County

Willingboro

4 Camden County

Runnemede & Camden

5 Cape May County

Cape May Courthouse

6 Cumberland County

Vineland

7 Essex County

Newark

8 Gloucester County

Sewell

9 Hudson County

North Bergen

Jersey City

10 Mercer County

Trenton & Hamilton Township

11 Middlesex County

East Brunswick

Perth Amboy

12 Monmouth County

Long Branch

13 Passaic County

Paterson & Wayne

14 Salem County

Woodstown

15 Somerset County

Somerville

16 Sussex County

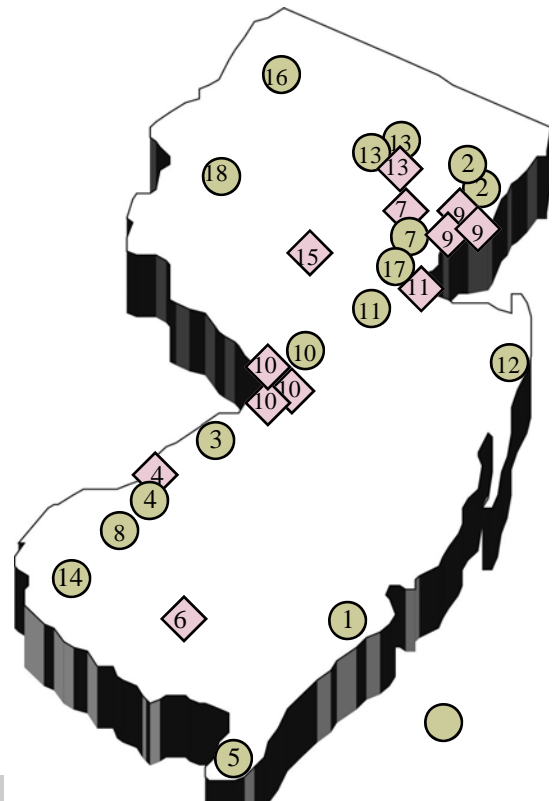
Newton

17 Union County

Elizabeth

18 Warren County

Washington



◆ - Spanish Language Testing Offered

For a complete listing of GED Test centers please visit us on the web at :
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/index.html>